DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TELEGRAM

P820063-1755

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/IDC/MR
REVIEWED BY EoB DATE 1/25/05
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT.
TS AUTH.
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☐
RELEASE DENIED ☒
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS 552(b)(1), EO 12356(1.5)

HANDLING: ROUTINE | CLASSIFICATION: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE | MESSAGE REFERENCE NO.: A-12

DATE
REASON(S)

TO: SECSTATE WASHDC, HQS DEA WASHDC for FRL, HQS CUSTOMS WASHDC for Foreign Operations Staff

INFO: AmEmbassy Vienna for USDEA Narcotics Coordinator, HQS U.S. European Command for SJA, HQS DEA/ODC/MR Drug Enforcement Matters / Pentagon for OASD/HA-ODAAP Valletta, Germany

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/IDC/MR
REVIEWED BY: DATE: APR 27 1982
RDS ☐ or XDS ☒ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. DAC REASON(S)
DECLASSIFIED ☐ RELEASABLE ☐
RELEASE DENIED ☐ Upgrade to CONFIDENTIAL OADR
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

FROM: AmEmbassy Bogotá

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR CO

SUBJECT: ANNUAL NARCOTICS STATUS REPORTS (ANSR) FOR 1981

36 REF: STATE 075093 INM

DEPT DISTRIBUTION

ORIGIN ACTION
INM

AF	ARA	CU	EA
EB	EUR	INR	IO
L	NEA	PER	PM
DP	SCI	SS	SY
T/S			
AID	AID	AIR	ARMY
IA	CIM	DOD	DOT
RD	HEW	INT	LAB
NV	NSA	NSC	OPIC
TR	TAR	TRSY	USIA
MB			

SUGGESTED DISTRIBUTION

I. PERCEPTION OF ILLICIT NARCOTICS ACTIVITIES IN COLOMBIA AND THE GOVERNMENT'S CONTROL EFFORTS:

A. (LOU) The Government of Colombia (GOC) is officially committed to the fight against illegal narcotics trafficking within its national territory. The GOC and the USG have maintained a bilateral antinarcotics program in Colombia since 1973, and Colombian officials and authorities have been generally cooperative in coordinating and executing antinarcotics operations and projects. However, behind this routine cooperation lies a fundamental divergence of official opinion between the two governments as to the nature and seriousness of the narcotics trafficking phenomenon. The GOC simply does not attach the importance to interdicting drug traffic which the USG does.

B. (LOU) As a national internal security priority, narcotics interdiction ranks a distant third behind control of the country's several armed guerrilla bands, and the fight against common crime. Various Colombian police agencies have distinguished themselves in specific drug interdiction operations or projects [redacted]

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

CLASSIFICATION

DRAFTED BY: NAU:WTHarris/kmp | DRAFTING DATE: 4/21/82 | PHONE NO.: 364 | CONTENTS AND CLASSIFICATION APPROVED BY: CHARGE:AFWatson

CLEARANCES:
NAU:FFCraig
NAU:CPBernal

FORM DS-323

[redacted]

C. (LOU) Some Colombian officials contend that drug trafficking is essentially a U.S. problem, resulting from the tremendous demand for narcotics in the U.S. market. Colombia, they argue, is merely a victim of its geographic location and available land. While quick to assign culpability for the existence of the drug industry in Colombia to the U.S. consumer, government leaders are equally deft at soft-pedalling the domestic effects of the drug trade.. Economic dislocations are minimized, domestic drug abuse is denied, increasing violence and lawlessness are often attributed to other sources, while Colombia's world image as a drug capital is decried as unfair. The Colombian leadership has not, however, completely ignored the negative effects of the drug industry on the national life. There is concern, for instance, in some quarters that drug money is increasingly finding its way into and corrupting national political campaigns. This development could feasibly alter the official insouciance of Colombia's political leaders, as government has traditionally been the exclusive preserve of a political machine here.

D. (LOU) In spite of increasing media coverage of huge drug seizures, domestic drug abuse, widespread criminal violence, and official corruption, Colombian public opinion on the drug issue remains largely unmoved. Many Colombians seem to view narcotics trafficking as a phenomenon somehow disconnected from the national life. The argument that the Colombian drug industry is merely a transient creature of U.S. demand for narcotics is widely accepted. Some otherwise down-to-earth Colombians contend that narcotics trafficking actually has a net positive effect - especially on the economy. There is even the hint of a perverse admiration for the successful smuggler - that being a time-honored profession in Colombia.

E. (LOU) However, some Colombians are genuinely disturbed by the increased corruption of the military, police, judiciary and other government officials by the trafficking syndicates; the escalation of violence and general lawlessness throughout the country; and the meteoric rise to wealth and influence of a criminal elite. This concern has not, however, translated itself into any kind of sustained public outcry against the drug traffickers. The reaction has been confined to mild grumblings and a profound cynicism regarding the government's capacity and will to cope with the problem.

F. (LOU) [redacted] Vague accusations that certain Congressional campaigns were supported by drug money, however, came into sharper focus during the March 1982 elections when vote buying in the North Coast and other drug syndicate involvement in the electoral process were widely reported.

G. (LOU) The Colombian economy, although in no important way dependent upon narcotics earnings, has to some extent benefited from an unexpected injection of "narcodollars" over the past six to seven years. Drug money has contributed to Colombia's enviable balance of payments posture to the extent that narcotics earnings have been monetized. On the negative side, however, the existence of a newly wealthy class exercising its considerable economic power through a foreign currency (i.e. dollars) within the Colombian national territory probably complicates GOC efforts to control domestic inflation through monetary policy.

H. (LOU) The narcodollar may be overrated as an input to the Colombian economy as the majority of narcotics earnings never enter Colombia, or are expatriated immediately (to Miami, Cayman Islands, Switzerland, etc.). In any case, the economic decision and policy makers in Colombia have not yet deemed it necessary to erect any barriers to the entry of narcotics earnings into the country's economy.

II. U.S. INTERESTS

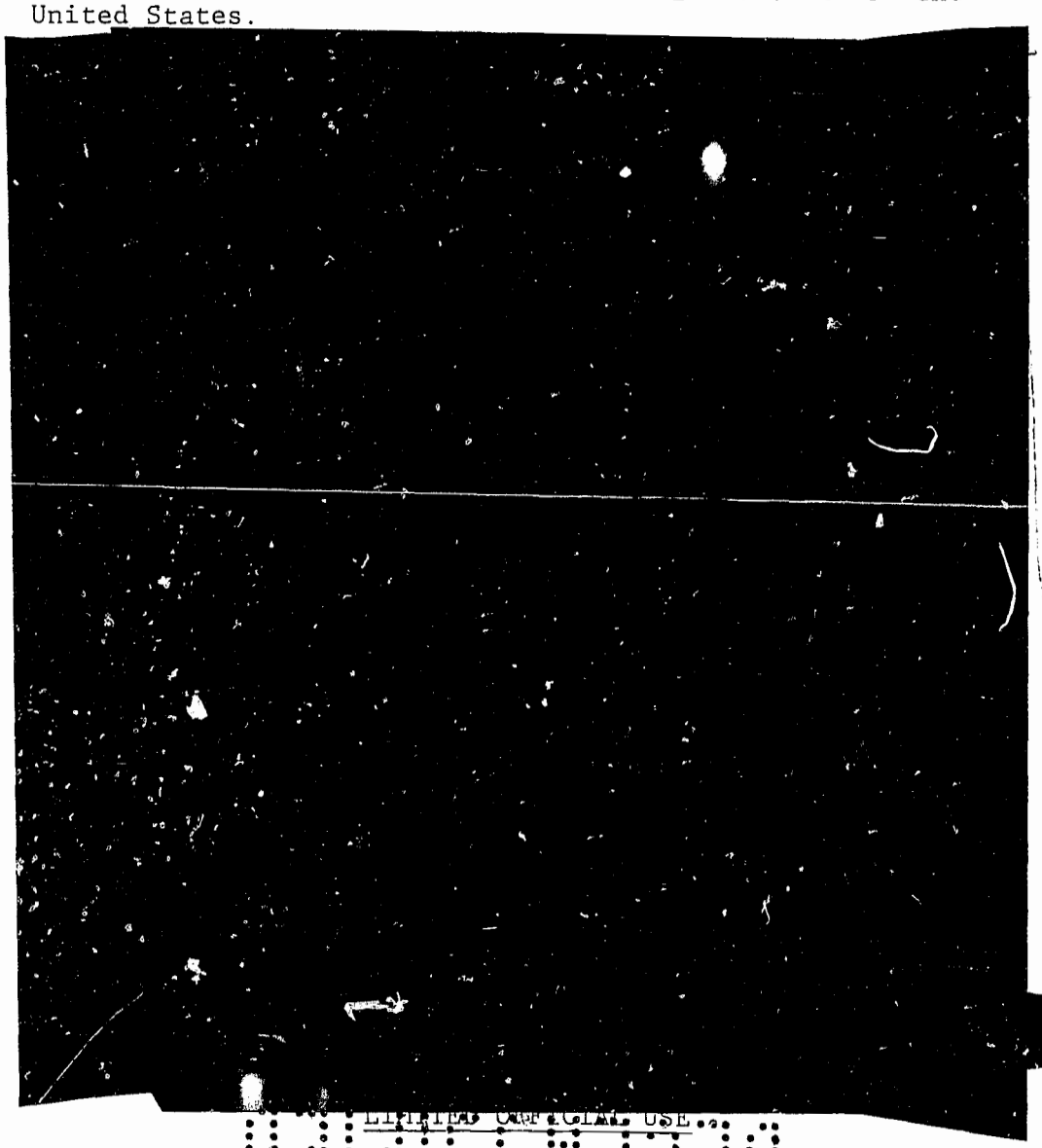
A. General

1. (U) To control, to the extent possible, the flow of illegal narcotics from Colombia to the United States through enforcement, eradication, and intelligence gathering.

2. (U) To assist the GOC in the establishment of a self-sustaining institutional capacity to effectively control drug traffic within its national territory, while encouraging

the Colombian authorities to assume increasingly levels of responsibility in the antinarcotics effort.

3. (U) To remain open to the possibility that U.S. experience or resources may be of important short-term value to the GOC in its efforts to confront the drug problem; and be prepared to offer such assistance as appropriate to help the GOC to attain policy objectives which are coincidental with the national interests of the United States.



C. Significant Developments in 1981

1. (U) Methaqualone seizures were up 377% over 1980 to 66.4 million dosage units.

2. (U) Marihuana seizures were up 345% over 1980 to 3,310 metric tons.

3. (U) Cocaine HCL seizures were down 64.5% to 549 Kg.

4. (U) Marihuana cultivation in the La Guajira peninsula was seriously disrupted; however, a new cultivation zone has emerged in the Gulf of Urabá area.

5. (U) Coca cultivation in Southwestern Colombia and in the Llanos expanded.

6. (U) The Colombian Supreme Court nullified the constitutional Reform Law which would have created the Fiscalia General and improved the prosecution of drug offenders.

7. (U). Embassy successfully placed many drug information articles in the Colombian press, and distributed an excellent drug information packet to 750 selected opinion leaders.

8. (U) Embassy helped to fund a Colombian television producer's visit to Mexico to film two 30-minute programs on the GOM's marihuana and poppy eradication efforts. The programs played to prime-time television audiences.

9. (U) As a direct result of an Embassy initiative the GOC officially notified the governments of Hungary and the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) that pursuant to the Psychotropic Substances Convention of 1971 Colombia would no longer accept imports of methaqualone. Embassy believes that this initiative has resulted in a reduction of methaqualone shipments to Colombia.

B. Production, Financing, and Marketing of Illicit Narcotics

DECLASSIFIED

Coca/Cocaine

1. (LOU) Estimated Yield for 1981 - Remote overhead sensing, or comprehensive aerial photography of most of Colombia would be required before yield estimates could be accurately made. However, based upon police and informant's reports, and the estimates of Embassy personnel who have travelled in/flown over the known production areas, there are currently at least 2,900 hectares (one hectare equals 2.471 acres) under coca cultivation. In addition to the amount of land under cultivation, yields are dependent upon such factors as plant spacing and maturity, alkaloid content, and the number of harvests per year - all of which are variable. Because an average hectare in a good (three harvest) year can produce about 750 kilograms of leaves; 2,175 metric tons of leaves may have been produced in Colombia during 1981. From this harvest one could expect an annual production of approximately 5.5 metric tons of cocaine HCL. Although cultivation estimates must be viewed with caution, it is probably safe to say that the Colombian trafficking community is actively attempting to expand domestic coca production as an alternative to the traditional coca paste/base producing countries of Bolivia and Peru.

2. (LOU) Location of Production - The following reflects the Embassy's best estimate of coca production in Colombia by region:

Department/Political Subdivision	Coca Cultivation in Hectares
Cauca	1,000
Llanos	1,200
Putumayo	300
Nariño	300
Other	100
TOTAL:	2,900

3. (LOU) Routes of movement to processing facilities - Coca paste and base are smuggled into Colombia on four major routes. The most important of these routes is the Pan American Highway from Peru through Ecuador. Paste and base routinely slip through the porous southern land border packed in all description of vehicles. A lesser

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
DECLASSIFIED

volume of coca is smuggled by small boat from Ecuador's Esmeralda coast to Tumaco. Coca shipments originating in Iquitos, Peru are transported along the Madeira-Amazon-Putumayo river systems and are crossed into Colombia at a variety of landings along the southern borders of the departments of Amazonas and Putumayo. These three routes converge on the city of Pasto where onward shipment by air and overland to production laboratories in Popayan, Pereira, Cali, Medellin, and Bogota is arranged. Coca paste/base are also flown directly from Peru and Bolivia to the Amazon city of Leticia for onward air shipment to Cali, Medellin or Bogota. Commerical aircraft are occasionally used to fly coca products from La Paz, Bolivia; Lima, Peru; and Guayaquil and Quito, Ecuador to major Colombian cities.

4. (LOU) Degree of Processing/Amounts Involved - Although domestic cultivation of coca in Colombia is increasing, "home grown" cocaine HCL probably accounts for no more than 15% of Colombia's exports. The bulk of the coca paste and base supplying the Colombian industry continues to arrive from Peru and Bolivia. Paste and base are processed into cocaine HCL in clandestine laboratories throughout Colombia. The labs tend to be located in higher elevations as the climate there is more favorable to the highly perishable cocaine HCL. The BDO*DEA currently estimates that as much as 30-32 metric tons of cocaine HCL may have reached international distribution centers in Colombia during 1981, and that most of this was processed domestically after entering Colombia as paste or base from Peru and Bolivia.

5. (LOU) Disposition of Cocaine HCL - Twenty major cocaine trafficking organizations in Colombia have been identified by the DEA. The principal purchasers of coca derivatives and cocaine HCL are members of these organizations. Estimated prevailing prices for coca products in Colombia are shown below:

Cocaine base (kilo)	10,000 USD
Cocaine HCL (kilo in Colombia)	20,000 USD
Cocaine HCL (kilo in Miami)	50,000 USD

6. (LOU) Form Illicit Substance Enters and Leaves - Coca derivatives enter Colombia as either coca paste or cocaine base, though lesser amounts of cocaine HCL occasionally enter from Ecuador. All coca derivatives processed in Colombia leave the country in the form of cocaine HCL.

* BDO - Bogotá District Office

Marihuana

1. (LOU) Estimated yield for 1981 - As in the case of coca production, overhead sensing or extensive aerial photography would be required to determine the extent of marihuana production in Colombia. However, based upon a revised conservative estimate of 25,000 hectares under cultivation, the BDO DEA calculates that about 50,000 metric tons of marihuana were produced in Colombia during 1981 - with 35,000 tons of that finding its way to the U.S. market.

2. (LOU) Location of Production - Marihuana is grown throughout Colombia, however, the principal growing regions are located in the Northeastern departments of La Guajira, Magdalena, and Cesar, where an estimated 18,750 hectares are under cultivation. A major new production area is currently being developed in the Gulf of Urabá area, with 2,500 hectares estimated to be in production. Marihuana of a lesser quality is also being cultivated on an estimated 2,500 hectares in the eastern plains (Llanos) areas of Meta, Vaupes, and Vichada. About 1,250 hectares are under cultivation in other scattered locations.

3. (LOU) Routes of Movement - Marihuana is processed where it is grown. It is generally compressed into bales and transported by vehicle or animal to warehouses located in thick brush or trees near clandestine airstrips or beaches. The marihuana is then transported by aircraft or marine vessel to its destination - usually on the U.S. East Coast. The Llanos crop is flown by private aircraft to the Pacific Coast.

4. (LOU) Degree of Processing in Colombia - Processing consists of the manual harvesting of the marihuana, separating the leaves from the stalks, and compressing it into bundles. The bundles, called "bultos", each weigh about 40 kilograms.

5. (LOU) Disposition of Marihuana - The vast majority of Colombian marihuana is sold to criminal syndicates who then export it to the U.S., and to a much lesser extent, other international markets.

[redacted] A buyers' market has existed in Colombia throughout 1981 due to recent bumper crops, large supplies on hand, and increased U.S. domestic production. A pound of marihuana harvested

in the field brings four to six USD. The price increases to 16-20 USD on the beach; 80 USD wholesale in Miami (bulk); and 500 USD retail.

6. (LOU) Form Illicit Substance Enters and Leaves - There is no reason to believe that significant quantities of marihuana ever enter Colombia. Most of the marihuana produced in Colombia leaves in compressed bundles in multi-ton loads via aircraft or marine vessel for international (mostly U.S.) markets.

Methaqualone

1. (LOU) The import of methaqualone powder into Colombia is prohibited by law. However, the BDO of the DEA estimates that Colombian narcotics traffickers may have supplied as much as 36 metric tons of methaqualone (quaalude) dosage units to the U.S. in 1981. This figure represents a 90% share of the U.S. market for the drug.

2. (LOU) Illicit methaqualone powder is shipped from Europe (primarily the FRG and Hungary) and from the People's Republic of China. The powder enters Colombia disguised as legitimate cargo via the port of Barranquilla and through the country's major airports. It is also smuggled ashore at a variety of clandestine landings along the North Coast. Recently improved coordination between Colombian and West German authorities (See Section II, B, 9.) and several major seizures in Colombia have apparently created serious disruptions in the supply of methaqualone to the U.S. market. It is however, too soon to assess just how serious a reverse the methaqualone traffickers have suffered. Once inside Colombia, the raw powder is distributed to clandestine laboratories in and around Barranquilla and Medellin where it is entabletted. The finished tablets are identical to the licit pharmaceuticals produced by Rorer and Lemmon. The pills are shipped or flown to the U S. in lots as large as one million dosage units. The price per tablet in Barranquilla is about .05 USD, while the Miami wholesale price is about .25 USD per units.

C. Transshipment of Illicit Drugs:

Cocaine

1. (LOU) Role of Colombia in transshipment of cocaine - Colombia reigns supreme as the world's foremost processor and exporter of cocaine HCL. Using domestically grown coca,

and huge clandestine imports of coca derivatives from Peru and Bolivia, Colombian organized crime syndicates supply more than 70% of the U.S. market for cocaine HCL -currently estimated by the BDO DEA to be 30-32 metric tons per year. Colombian drug racketeers also supply the European cocaine HCL market. The precise percentage of the European market supplied by the Colombian syndicates is unknown.

2. (LOU) Mode of Transportation - Colombian smugglers, ever adept and ingenious, have overlooked no method of transporting cocaine HCL to international markets. Passenger airlines are used, along with marine cargo vessels with ports of call on both U.S. coasts, ships of the Gran Colombiana and Prudential Lines, banana boats, shrimpers and other fishing boats, along with cargo and cruise ships which stop at Colombian ports. Nearly all types and classes of aircraft have at one time or another been used to transport cocaine, including private, scheduled, cargo and Colombian military aircraft.

3. (LOU) Transportation Routes Within Colombia - Paste and base are moved by small boats from the Esmeraldas (Ecuador) coast to the Tumaco (Colombia) area. Coca derivatives entering Colombia from Ecuador on the Pan American Highway are commonly concealed in private vehicles, buses and cargo trucks and on individuals. Paste and base entering Colombia from Peru via the Amazon and Putumayo rivers are then transported overland in vehicles travelling northward on back roads to various points on the Pan American Highway. These three routes generally converge on Pasto (Colombia) for onward distribution to clandestine lab sites located in various cities along the Highway - including Cali, Bogota, and Medellin. Coca paste and base flown into the Amazonas Department - usually Leticia - from Bolivia either join the river route to Pasto, or are flown directly to a point along the Pan American Highway in light aircraft.

4. (LOU) Traffickers' Involvement - Cocaine trafficking in Colombia is controlled by numerous well-organized, well-financed, and extremely ruthless criminal syndicates. Among those already identified by authorities as major traffickers are:

[redacted]

Marihuana

1. (LOU) Role of Colombia in Transshipment of Marihuana - Colombia does not transship marihuana grown outside its borders to third countries. Very nearly all of Colombia's marihuana export is domestically grown in the North Coast area, and to a much lesser extent, in the Llanos and Southwest Coastal regions. Colombian marihuana, which supplies about 70% of the U.S. demand, is usually transported from the North Coast by marine vessel in multi-ton loads to the U.S. Gulf and East Coasts. Other shipments are flown in light or cargo aircraft to clandestine strips throughout the Southeastern U.S. Much smaller quantities of marihuana are shipped from Colombian west coast ports (Tumaco and Buenaventura) to U.S. West Coast destinations in small boats.

2. (LOU) Other Types of Organized Crime, Terrorism, Insurgency, Or Gun-Running:

In his testimony before the Senate on March 12, 1982, Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs Mr. Thomas Enders confirmed the connection between narcotics traffickers and Cuban-backed terrorist organizations involving the transfer of drugs, weapons, and funds. Conclusive evidence of this connection was provided by the well-publicized Jaime Guillot case. Although this is the first proven incident of this nature, it has alerted authorities throughout the hemisphere to the possibility of other such links.

D. Significance of Drug Production Trafficking And Demand For Colombia's Economy:

1. (U) Economic dependence on drug crops - The coca bush is grown in such limited quantity in Colombia that very few campesinos are truly dependent upon coca cultivation for their livelihood. There are, however, some indications that agricultural workers in certain localities are abandoning the production of foodstuffs for

work in coca fields. The marihuana industry employs far more campesinos, and to a certain extent, some unknown percentage of these probably only work in the marihuana fields to sustain themselves. The rural laborers in the marihuana industry is made up mostly of Indians and campesinos indigenous to the North Coast region. They are an impoverished people who have been eeking out a living through subsistence farming and day labor for hundreds of years. Their employment in drug agriculture has had negligible effect on national agricultural output. The lands devoted to marihuana cultivation are for the most part marginal.

2. (LOU) Impact on Colombian Economy - The effects of narcotics earnings on the Colombian economy are inherently difficult to measure. However, Embassy's assessment is that although the impact of "narcodollars" on the economy is significant, it is neither pervasive nor profound. The effect of the multi-billion dollar earnings of the Colombian drug industry on the country's economy are limited most importantly by the simple fact that the vast majority of those profits never enter Colombia - or are quickly expatriated. Private dollar transactions in Colombia may amount to as much as two billion USD annually, however, this figure represents a circular flow of cash and the actual amount of narcodollars in the country at a given moment is probably much smaller.

Central Bank records indicate that approximately five hundred million USD were monetized in 1981. Although the percentage of this amount generated by narcotics trafficking (as opposed to tourism for example) is unknown, Embassy estimates that most of Colombia's legally monetized dollars came from drug profits. Drug traffickers "launder" narcodollars through the over-invoicing of exports, through the misuse of legal conversion mechanisms, front companies, farm and cattle purchases, and conversion of dollars on the black market. The most significant problem which narcodollars present for the economy is that because they are inherently unquantifiable, their existence complicates GOC economic planning - especially for monetary policy.

E. Local Drug Abuse During 1981:

1. (U) Reliable national drug abuse statistics are not available in Colombia. However, Embassy is aware of studies conducted from time to time by reputable private drug rehabilitation institutes. Such studies generally find that a domestic drug abuse problem does exist in Colombia, and that it is growing. The drug abuse phenomenon

transcends economic and class lines. Drug abuse is most prevalent among Colombia's youth, and the drugs most frequently abused are marihuana, cocaine, and various tranquilizers.

2. (U) No reliable statistics are available for domestic consumption rates or prices of illicit narcotics in Colombia. Nationwide figures are also not available on drug related hospitalizations and deaths.

F. Legal Aspects:

1. (U) The GOC officially acceded to the Vienna Convention on Controlled Substances on May 12, 1981. A bilateral extradition treaty with the United States, originally signed September 4, 1979, and promulgated through Colombian Law 27 of November 3, 1980, was finalized by an exchange of Diplomatic Notes on March 4, 1982. A bilateral Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty with the United States is currently before the Colombian Congress. The Congress is also considering a bill which would waive the confidentiality of bank records of Colombians suspected of involvement in drug trafficking. During 1981, the Colombian Supreme Court overturned a 1979 constitutional reform which was designed, among other things, to improve the prosecution of drug traffickers, and to create a Prosecutor General's Office.

2. (U) Enforcement and Legal Process - Colombia's basic narcotics law, Decree Number 1188, makes ample provision for the apprehension, prosecution and conviction of drug traffickers. Unfortunately, the enforcement and judicial apparatus of the country has not been conspicuously successful in arresting, prosecuting, and convicting Colombia's major narcotics traffickers. The reasons for this lack of success - including inadequate personnel, equipment and training; ineptitude and lack of will - are discussed in more detail in other sections of this report.

G. Enforcement Agencies:

1. (U) Judicial Police - The antinarcotics Unit of the Judicial Police is subsumed under the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) and comprises about 140 men and women. Just over 100 of these are operational agents, with the rest of the complement providing administrative and logistical support. The Unit is headquartered in Bogota with regional offices located in Barranquilla, Cali, Medellin, Pasto

and Popayan. When the Antinarcotics Unit was created in 1978 it was envisioned as the cutting edge of a revitalized Colombian drug interdiction campaign which was to be directed by the Attorney General. The Unit, however, never experienced the planned expansion in personnel and has been plagued by chronic shortages of equipment and logistical support. With the recent ruling of the Colombian Supreme Court against the Judicial Reform of 1979, hope for an expanded role in narcotics enforcement for the OAG and the Judicial Police seems to be - at least temporarily - on the rocks. In its brief history, the Antinarcotics Unit of the Judicial Police has achieved a few successes - especially in methaqualone interdiction.

2. (U) National Police - The most significant change in Colombia's approach to counter narcotics trafficking remains the formation and deployment of the relatively new Special Antinarcotics Unit (SANU). Comprising 1,048 men, the SANU is divided into eight companies each made up of 110 uniformed police, one 80-man unit deployed in the Llanos, with eleven 8-man intelligence units serving as the principal investigative arm of the new organization. The initial efforts of the SANU have been encouraging. From their garrisons in the heart of the trafficking regions, they have mounted operations which have netted in excess of 3,000 metric tons of marihuana and more than 9 million dosage units of methaqualone. The SANU have also manually eradicated 400 hectares of coca cultivation, mainly in the Department of Cauca and the Llanos.

3. (U) Customs - Customs 6,000 employees are deployed in 18 districts and 22 ports-of-entry. Their Investigations Office includes a small narcotics unit, however, the majority of Customs' seizures are "cold hits" made during routine inspections. They recently took delivery of a 2.3 million USD 105-foot patrol boat (purchased with INC funds). The boat, which is based in Cartagena, patrols the North Coast and is one of four Customs patrol craft. Colombian Customs seizures during CY 1981 include 132 metric tons of marihuana, 21,000 dosage units of amphetamines, 154 kilograms of cocaine HCL, and 17 million dosage units of methaqualone.

H. Training

1. (U) Nature and Quality of Local Anti-Narcotics Training - The Colombian National Police and Customs assumed increased responsibility of anti-narcotics training of their personnel during 1981. In addition to basic police

and customs training field personnel are trained in techniques of surveillance; case initiation; informant development, interrogation techniques, identification of drugs, search of persons and vehicles. Embassy rates the quality of this training as excellent.

2. U.S. Training Provided

a. (U) Narcotics Enforcement Seminars - Embassy coordinated and implemented two narcotics enforcement seminars for judges, prosecutors, and Police officials, for one week each in the cities of Medellin and Bogota. On both occasions DEA/Bogota and/or DEA/Washington participated in the training activities.

Total personnel trained in the Narcotics Enforcement Seminars: 300. All of the training took place in Colombia and was funded from NAU/PD&S funds.

b. (U) Ministry of Justice/Institute of Forensic Medicine - Two chemists were trained at the DEA Laboratory facility in the State of Virginia in techniques of qualitative and quantitative analysis of suspect substances. Training was jointly funded by DEA and NAU/PD&S funds.

c. (U) Colombian Customs Service - Embassy sponsored the eleventh regional training course for Customs Officers in Narcotics Enforcement Techniques in the city of Barranquilla for a three week period. Total number of personnel trained was 35 officers, inspectors and enlisted men.

d. (U) National Police - Embassy/NAU technical staff provided training for 70 officers and enlisted personnel from the National Police unit assigned to the State of Cauca relative to the use of power saws and back-pack sprayers. This training was essential for the pilot project "Cut and Spray" operation initiated in the vicinity of Bolivar against coca cultivation.

e. (U) Public Health - Two technicians were sent to a two week epidemiology workshop in Los Angeles to study data collection methodologics for drug abuse data.

3. (U) Third-Country or Multilateral Training Programs- None.

4. (U) Evaluate the Progress Domestic Organizations Have Made Toward Institutionalizing the Training Function -

a. (U) The GOC Customs Service maintains an excellent in-country training program conducted by Colombian instructors with limited assistance from NAU/Customs Advisor.

b. (U) The National Police has developed a strong professional cadre of training instructors. Most of these are graduates of DEA/NAU training programs. Although both DEA and NAU continue to participate in the National Police training program, their input amounts to only a three-day block during the six month training cycle.

5. (U) How Much Local Training Conducted in 1981 - The National Police trained 1,048 officers in their anti-narcotics program. The GOC Customs Service trained 176 agents.

I. Prevention, Treatment, and Rehabilitation Programs:

(U) The GOC does not currently sponsor a credible narcotics demand reduction program. Demand reduction rests nominally with the Ministry of Health. Some small-scale drug treatment programs exist in Colombia, operated by private organizations or semi-private hospitals. Because the GOC does not view domestic drug abuse as a serious problem, it has not assigned significant resources to demand reduction.

J. (U) Arrests: According to figures provided by the GOC, combined agencies narcotic arrests occurred as follows:

		Colombians	Foreigners	Total
OAG	1980	58	1	59
	1981	68	6	74
Customs	1980	82	36	118
	1981	79	9	88
NP	1980	433	9	442
	1981	722	14	736
Military*	1980	787	57	844
	1981	-0-	0	-0-
DAS	1980	2	0	2
	1981	1	0	1
TOTALS	1980	1362	103	1465
	1981	870	29	899

Legend - OAG - Office of the Attorney General
NP - National Police
DAS - Department of Administrative Security

* The military's responsibility for narcotics interdiction in the Guajira Peninsula ended November 1980, when nationwide jurisdiction was assigned to the National Police's Special Antinarcotics Unit.

K. (U) Seizures

(Jan thru Dec 1980/1981)

Agency		Bulk Marihuana	Cocaine HCL	Cocaine Labs	Cocaine(In dosage units) Methaqualone
OAG	1980	7.6 MT	564.1 K	13	3,561,000
	1981	---	70.9 K	22	39,556,000
Customs	1980	31.5 MT	228.7 K	---	174,427
	1981	99.1 MT	150.1 K	---	17,090,000
NP	1980	44.1 MT	745.9 K	41	763,580
	1981	3,207.4 MT	328.0 K	36	9,740,346
Military*	1980	660.6 MT	---	---	9,400,177
	1981	---	---	---	---
DAS	1980	---	6.5 K	---	---
	1981	3.4 MT	---	---	---
Totals	1980	743.8 MT	1,545.2 K	54	13,899,184
	1981	3,309.9 MT	549.0 K	58	66,386,346

Legend: OAG = Office of the Attorney General
NP = National Police
DAS = Department of Administrative Security

This chart is based entirely on statistics submitted by the GOC agencies involved in narcotics control.

* The military's responsibility for narcotics interdiction in the Guajira Peninsula ended November 1980, when nationwide jurisdiction was assigned to the NP's Special Antinarcotics Unit which is deployed in company-size groups.

L. (U) Crop Eradication and Income Replacement

The GOC through the National Police currently operates a coca plant manual eradication program in the Llanos and Cauca. According to NP statistics, 500,327 coca plants were manually destroyed in Colombia during 1981. Embassy is unable to confirm these statistics. Future Embassy initiatives are being considered to encourage the GOC to embark upon a major herbicidal eradiction program in the coca and marihuana growing zones. The GOC currently has no income replacement or crop substitution program operating in the manual eradication zones.

M. (U) End-Use Utilization of Commodities

During CY 1981, INM processed a record number of Purchase Authorizations (approximately nine million dollars) which consisted of vehicles, a 105-foot boat, a STOL aircraft, telecommunications, field equipment, field rations, and other miscellaneous items in support of the interdiction activities. Embassy initially decided to consign all commodities to the GOC recipient agencies due to the amount of administrative work involved for processing both before and after arrival. Due to repeated problems encountered by GOC authorities in handling documentation and monitoring shipments, Embassy decided to change consignee to USG.

Embassy has underscored the significance of end-use monitoring with GOC agencies including periodic formal notification through our regular correspondence with the Ministry of National Defense, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Finance, and the Office of the Attorney General. Every NAU staff member is under instructions to conduct end-use monitoring whenever on a field trip and include this entry as a matter of record in the trip report.

No instances of non-narcotics use of USG-provided commodities have been detected. Embassy is fairly current in its submission of all receiving reports due in part to the excellent Commodity Status Report compiled and distributed by INM/Commodity Management.

UNCLASSIFIED

IV. MULTILATERAL DRUG CONTROL

A. (U) Colombia is party to the following accords:

1. 1961 Single Convention
2. 1972 Amendments to the 1961 Single Convention
3. 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances
4. The U.S. and Colombia have had a bilateral anti-narcotics program since 1973. This is the only bilateral or multilateral program to which Colombia is party.

B. (U) Multilateral Narcotics Control - On January 1, 1981, the UNFDAC initiated funding in the amount of 248,000 USD for a joint project in drug treatment and rehabilitation with the Colombian Ministry of Health. The project is designed to improve the quality and scope of care currently offered in several hospitals in various parts of Colombia. Embassy is unable to assess the success of this program.

(U) An explanation of a successful bilateral effort with the FRG to slow methaqualone shipments to Colombia appears in Part II, Section C, Paragraph 9.

C. (U) Special International Committees - None.

D. (U) Local Accomplishments of International Cooperation - No significant developments in 1981.

WATSON

UNCLASSIFIED